

Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

6. In addition *It Is Ordered* that the petition for waiver of § 74.1231 of these rules for translator station K285CS filed by John Davidson Craver *Is Denied* and that the petition for rule making of John La Tour *Is Denied* to the extent indicated herein. Further, *It is Ordered* that effective immediately as of the close of Commission business on the day of adoption of this *Notice of Inquiry*, and until further notice, the Commission *Will Not Accept* applications for new FM translator stations, except as provided herein above. Any translator application received by the Commission that is not acceptable due to this freeze will be returned, along with any accompanying filing fee, to the applicant.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Radio broadcasting.

Federal Communications Commission.

H. Walker Feaster, III,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 88-13250 Filed 6-10-88; 8:45 am]

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47 CFR Part 73

[MM Docket 87-121]

Amendment To Permit Short-Spaced FM Station Assignments by Using Directional Antennas

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rule making; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: This action, requested by Greater Media, Inc., extends the comment and reply comment periods for the *Notice of Proposed Rule Making* in MM Docket 87-121. That Notice (53 FR 12779, April 19, 1988) proposes rules that would permit the use of short-spaced stations, and related matters.

DATES: Comments are due August 5, 1988 and replies due September 5, 1988.

ADDRESS: Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bernard Gorden, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 632-9660.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Order Granting Motion For Extension of Time For Filing Comments

Adopted: May 26, 1988.

Released: May 27, 1988.

By the Chief, Mass Media Bureau.

In the matter of amendment of Part 73 of the Commission's Rules to Permit Short-spaced FM Station assignments by using

Directional Antennas, MM Docket No. 87-121.

1. On March 30, 1988, the Commission released a *Notice of Proposed Rule Making* ("Notice") in the captioned matter.¹ In the *Notice*, the Commission proposes amending the rules to permit use of short-spaced FM transmitting antenna sites in certain circumstances, use of FM directional antennas by short-spaced stations, and related matters. Comments on the proposal were to be filed on or before May 27, 1988, with replies on or before June 27, 1988. On May 10, 1988, Greater Media, Inc. ("Greater Media") filed a motion requesting that the comment period be extended to August 5, 1988.

2. In its motion, Greater Media appears concerned that the *Notice* expands the scope of this proceeding beyond what was originally contemplated in the initial *Notice of Inquiry* in this proceeding. Specifically, it believes that the proposals in the *Notice* seem to presage a transition to a demand-based allocation system which is premised upon contour protection, rather than mileage separations and a Table of Allotments. As evidence of this intention, it alleges that the *Notices* proposes to introduce the use of directional antennas in the allocation process, to allow short-spaced stations to accept interference, and to reduce the contour protection standards applicable to Class B stations. In view of the complex nature of these purported proposals, Greater Media believes an extension in the comment period is necessary to allow it and other interested members of the industry to complete their review and formulate a satisfactory response.

3. While we agree with Greater Media's assessment of the complexities of the technical issues under study, we believe that Greater Media has overstated the intent of this proceeding regarding the Commission's fundamental channel allotment policy. Nonetheless, in light of the depth and complexity of the proposed interference protection standards, directional antenna issues, and other related technical matters raised in the *Notice*, we believe that additional time for filing comments is warranted, and that the public interest would be served by a grant of Greater Media's request.

4. Accordingly, *It Is Ordered* That the Motion for Extension of Comment and Reply Comment Dates filed by Greater Media, Inc. *Is Granted* and that the dates for filing comments and reply comments are *Extended* to August 5,

1988 and September 5, 1988, respectively.

5. This action is taken pursuant to authority found in sections 4(d) and 303(r) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended and §§ 0.204(b), 0.283, 1.46 and 1.45 of the Commission's Rules.

Federal Communications Commission.

Alex D. Felker,

Chief, Mass Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 88-13251 Filed 6-10-88; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 642

[Docket No. 80621-3121]

Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Preliminary Change In Total Allowable Catch and Bag Limits for King and Spanish Mackerel

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), NOAA, Commerce.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Commerce issues a notice of preliminary change in the total allowable catch (TAC), allocations, and quotas for the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico migratory groups of king and Spanish mackerel and in the bag limits for the Atlantic group of king mackerel and the Gulf group of Spanish mackerel in accordance with the framework procedure of the Fishery Management Plan for the Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources (FMP). This notice proposes (1) for the Gulf migratory group of king mackerel, increases in TAC, allocations, and quotas; (2) for the Gulf migratory group of Spanish mackerel, increases in TAC, allocations, and bag limits; (3) for the Atlantic migratory group of king mackerel, reductions in TAC and allocations, and in the bag limit applicable to the southern area of the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) off Florida; and (4) for the Atlantic migratory group of Spanish mackerel, increases in TAC and allocations. The intended effects are to protect the mackerels while still allowing catch by the important recreational and commercial fisheries that are dependent on these species.

DATE: Written comments must be received on or before June 23, 1988.

ADDRESS: Comments may be mailed to Mark F. Godcharles, Southeast Region,

¹ See FCC 88-73, 3 FCC Rcd 1820 (1988).

National Marine Fisheries Service, 9450 Koger Boulevard, St. Petersburg, FL 33702.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mark F. Godcharles, 813-893-3722.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The mackerel fisheries are regulated under the FMP, which was prepared jointly by the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Fishery Management Councils (Councils), and its implementing regulations at 50 CFR Part 642. Amendment 1 to the FMP was implemented September 22, 1985 (50 FR 34843, August 28, 1985). Amendment 2 was implemented June 30, 1987 (52 FR 23836, June 25, 1987).

In accordance with § 642.27, the Councils appointed an assessment group (Group) to assess on an annual basis the condition of each stock of king and Spanish mackerel in the management unit, to report its findings, and to make recommendations to the Councils. Based on its 1988 report and recommendations, advice from the Mackerel Advisory Panel and the Scientific and Statistical Committee, and public input, the Councils recommended to the Director, Southeast Region, NMFS, changes to TACs, allocations, quotas, and bag limits.

Specifically, the Councils recommended that, effective with the fishing year beginning July 1, 1988, annual TACs be set at 3.4 million pounds (m. lbs.) for the Gulf migratory group of king mackerel and 5.0 m. lbs. for the Gulf migratory group of Spanish mackerel. The Councils further recommended that, effective for the fishing year which began April 1, 1988, annual TACs be set at 7.0 m. lbs. for the Atlantic migratory group of king mackerel and 4.0 m. lbs. for the Atlantic migratory group of Spanish mackerel. All TACs are within the range of acceptable biological catch determined by the Group.

Under the provisions of the FMP, the recreational and commercial fisheries are each allocated a fixed percentage of each TAC and the Gulf king mackerel commercial allocation is divided into quotas for eastern and western zones. Under the fixed percentages and the proposed TACs, these allocations and quotas would be as follows:

Species		(m. lbs.)	
Gulf King Mackerel—TAC.....	3.4		
Recreational allocation (68%).....		2.31	
Commercial allocation (32%).....		1.09	
Eastern zone (69% of 1.09).....			0.75

Species		(m. lbs.)	
Western zone (31% of 1.09).....			0.34
Gulf Spanish Mackerel—TAC.....	5.0		
Recreational allocation (43%).....		2.15	
Commercial allocation (57%).....		2.85	
Atlantic King Mackerel—TAC.....	7.0		
Recreational allocation (62.9%).....		4.40	
Commercial allocation (37.1%).....		2.60	
Atlantic Spanish Mackerel—TAC.....	4.0		
Recreational allocation (24%).....		0.96	
Commercial allocation (76%).....		3.04	

The recreational fishery is regulated by both allocations and bag limits. The Councils recommended no changes in the bag limits applicable to the Gulf group of king mackerel and the Atlantic group of Spanish mackerel. For the Atlantic group of king mackerel, the Councils recommended no change in the three-fish bag limit in the northern area (the EEZ off North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia), but recommended a reduction in the bag limit in the southern area (the EEZ off Florida) to two fish per person per trip. For the Gulf group of Spanish mackerel, the Councils recommended increases in the bag limits in the eastern area (the EEZ off Florida) to four fish per person per trip and in the western area (the EEZ off Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas) to ten fish per person per trip.

The recommended reduction of the bag limit from three to two Atlantic group king mackerel in the southern area is intended to decrease recreational catch in response to the lower TAC and maintain a recreational harvest throughout the season. A substantial portion of the allocation is historically taken in this high-population area where generally favorable fishing conditions allow increased fishing effort. The two-fish bag limit is also consistent with Florida's regulations. The recovering stock of Spanish mackerel in the Gulf allows an increase in the TAC and allocations. A bag limit increase to four fish is recommended in the eastern area where 87 percent of the recreational allocation was taken during the 1986-1987 fishing year. This bag limit is consistent with Florida's regulations. A bag limit increase to ten fish is recommended in the western area where fishing effort and availability of fish are lower and is compatible with recently implemented regulations in Alabama.

A minority report has been submitted by ten members of the Councils requesting that the Secretary reject the Gulf Spanish mackerel bag limits. The report contends that the variable bag limit of ten for Alabama through Texas and four for Florida is not supported by the record, that it fails to manage the stock as a unit throughout its range in violation of National Standard 3, and that it is not fair and equitable as required by National Standard 4. All the issues raised by the minority report and any others raised during the comment period will be considered prior to publication of a notice of final changes.

Other Matters

This action is authorized by 50 CFR 642.27, and complies with E.O. 12291.

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 642

Fisheries, Fishing, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: June 7, 1988.

James W. Brennan,
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries,
National Marine Fisheries Service.

PART 642—COASTAL MIGRATORY PELAGIC RESOURCES OF THE GULF OF MEXICO AND SOUTH ATLANTIC

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, 50 CFR Part 642 is proposed to be amended as follows:

1. The authority citation for Part 642 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

§ 642.21 [Amended]

2. In § 642.21, the numbers are revised in the following places to read as follows:

Paragraph	Re- moved	Added
(a)(1), introductory text.....	0.7	1.09
(a)(1)(i).....	0.48	0.75
(a)(1)(ii).....	0.22	0.34
(a)(2), first sentence.....	3.59	2.60
(b)(1).....	1.5	2.31
(b)(2).....	6.09	4.40
(c)(1).....	1.42c	2.85
(c)(2).....	2.36	3.04
(d)(1).....	1.08	2.15
(d)(2).....	0.74	0.96

3. In § 642.28, paragraphs (a)(2) and (3) are revised, paragraph (a)(4)(iii) is removed, and a new paragraph (a)(5) is added to read as follows:

§ 642.28 Bag and possession limits.

(a) * * *

(2) *King mackerel Atlantic migratory group.* (i) Possessing two king mackerel per person per trip from the southern area.

(ii) Possessing three king mackerel per person per trip from the northern area.

(3) *Spanish mackerel Gulf migratory group.* (i) Possessing four Spanish mackerel per person per trip from the eastern area.

(ii) Possessing ten Spanish mackerel per person per trip from the western area.

* * * * *

(5) *Areas.* (i) For the purposes of paragraphs (a)(2) and (4) of this section, the boundary between the northern and southern areas is a line extending directly east from the Georgia/Florida boundary (30°42'45.6" N. latitude) to the outer limit of the EEZ.

(ii) For the purposes of paragraph (a)(3) of this section, the boundary between the eastern and western areas (identical to the eastern and western zones in the commercial fishery) is a line extending directly south from the Alabama/Florida boundary (87°31'06" W. longitude) to the outer limit of the EEZ.

* * * * *

[FR Doc. 88-13261 Filed 6-8-88; 4:53 pm]

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